

## Nagorodo

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This is what happened; all of a woman's children died. So she worked the fields on her own, all on her own. Her fields were untilled, and so she kept going back. She went to the fields and cried each time. One day, she was followed by her child, Nagorodo, who told her, 'Stop crying. Put your digging sticks here'. So the woman jabbed her digging sticks, maybe two or three of them, into the field. Then she told her husband, 'Sharpen some more digging sticks for me'. Four sticks were sharpened for her, so she took them to the field and left them there. The next morning she went to the field, and found that it had been tilled. She hadn't been able to put food in a dish for her child, so she had remained as she was. One day she put millet grains in a dish. Later, when she came home from the field, she found that her children had done what? The spirit children had ground her millet into flour. They kept doing this, and the woman was overwhelmed by it all.

The next day the husband, the one who had married her, asked himself, 'Now this woman has been well-nourished. She has containers full of food. Who is it that's dishing out the food for her?' So the man hid in her bed and slept. He hid there so he'd see who was helping the woman, because the woman didn't have any what? Any children. So he hid there until he saw the girls appear to do their mother's work. They didn't pass through the door, but came on a ray of light. Then they ate and were done. When they finished grinding, he jumped up and grabbed his child, *Nabu!* She said, 'Father, stop grabbing me. You're killing me, *Woi*, stop grabbing me, I don't have any bones. You're killing me!' So he grabbed her, and held onto her until the mother came. When she came and found them, the mother cried and cried, '*Woi*, you were envious of me, but I haven't got a single thing!'

Nagorodo had turned into a limp thing that couldn't do anything anymore. So Nagorodo just sat there. There was nothing she could do, not having any bones. Then her relatives who were spirits all came to dance to her; they danced and danced for her. The next day a great hurricane swept down, a terrible whirlwind. It found her sitting outside and *Puu!* It carried her away on her feet. She was carried away by the wind. She was taken to her relatives who were spirits. That was the end of it.

No spirit ever appeared again to help a living person. And since Nagorodo's time, when a person gets sick, it's said that his deceased clansmen are making the child sick. It's said, 'Nagorodo helped by bringing food, but she was taken away by a whirlwind'. When Nagorodo was asked about the *gitemi* law, she explained it all. Nagorodo explained every single thing. But she was taken away by a whirlwind, and she left. That's the end.